

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 001/21 of the Construction Workers Registration Board(CWRB) was held on 24 March 2021 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay and via Video Conference.

Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 001/21.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
		(a) The Chairperson welcomed new members Ms. LEE Chung-yan, Angela, Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1, Development Bureau and Mr. LAU Lik-kee, Assistant Director/Gas and General Legislation (Ag.), Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. (b) Mr. CHAN Kwok-yin, Andrew and Mr. CHAN Pat-kan resigned from the office of the members of the CWRB. The Chairperson thanked them for their contributions to the CWRB over the past years.
1.1	CIC/CRB/M/003/20	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 003/20.
1.2		Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Members took note of the progress on the matters arising from the previous meeting.
1.3	CIC/CRB/P/001/21 (for information)	Report of Sub-committee on Data Analysis Meeting No. 001/21 (a) Projected from the data of the daily attendance records (DAR) in the Construction Workers Registration System (CWRS) and telephone survey, the overall number of engaged workers in the construction industry was 349,736 as at 31 January 2021. (b) The number of newly registered construction workers increased by around 66,000 from March 2020 to January 2021, of which around 61,000 were registered general workers. Among the newly registered skilled and semi-skilled workers, the top three trades held by

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		<p>the workers were Electricians, Plant and Equipment Operators and Construction Goods Vehicle Drivers. In addition, the proportion of women among newly registered construction workers had risen to around 40%.</p> <p>(c) According to the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the construction expenditure in the second and third quarters of 2020 was around HK\$111 billion, recorded a fall of 4.2% on a year-on-year basis.</p> <p>(d) The C&SD unemployment rate of the construction sector (January 2021: 11%; February 2021: 11.4%) and particularly of those involved in decoration, repair and maintenance for buildings (January 2021: 15%; February 2021: 16%) continued to rise.</p> <p>(e) The number of registered workers with DAR >0 in the CWRS in January 2021 (around 102,300) decreased by around 1% compared to the previous report in October 2020 (around 103,300).</p>
1.4	CIC/CRB/P/002/21 (for information)	<p>Report of Workers Registration Office</p> <p>(a) Total number of workers with valid registration as at 28 February 2021 was 555,306, comprising 207,732 registered skilled workers, 32,960 registered semi-skilled workers and 314,614 registered general workers.</p> <p>(b) Workers Registration Office assisted workers in need at service centres to make an online appointment for free COVID-19 voluntary testing services for construction workers provided by the government.</p> <p>(c) Workers Registration Office provided registered workers with anti-epidemic related information through SMS, including Construction Industry Caring Campaign - Fight against Novel Coronavirus initiated by the CIC and the construction industry, free COVID-19 voluntary testing services for construction workers provided by the Government and the inclusion of registered construction workers in the priority groups for vaccination, in addition to the latest news of CIC training and trade testing.</p>

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		<p>(d) The tender exercises for the new procurement contract for the "Construction Workers Registration Card" was on schedule. The tender recommendation would be submitted for approval at the next CWRB meeting on 2 June 2021.</p> <p>(e) Tender evaluation and award of the design and build project of new CIC Kowloon Bay Service Centre was targeted to complete by end of April. The design and construction works would be carried out from May to August.</p>
1.5	CIC/CRB/P/003/21 (for information)	<p>Report of Inspection and Enforcement</p> <p>(a) From January to February 2021, a total of 191 construction sites and 1,895 workers registration cards were inspected according to the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO). A total of 336 DAR submission was checked.</p> <p>(b) From February to March 2021, over 500 construction sites were inspected on the implementation of "Regular Testing at Sites".</p> <p>(c) A total of 73 prosecution summonses were issued from January to February 2021.</p> <p>(d) From January to February 2021, a total of 4 seminars on "Designated Workers for Designated Skills" and "Construction Workers Registration System" were held.</p>
1.6		<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>(a) Members discussed whether new trade divisions for workers registration was required in view of adoption of MiC. Members considered that trade skills involved in construction process of MiC projects are no different from the skills of current trade divisions under the CWRO. Thus no new trade division was required for the time being.</p> <p>(b) Regarding upskill of registered general workers to registered semi-skilled or skilled workers, Members suggested to work with the Construction Industry Training Board where appropriate, to brainstorm the preferred composition of the three types of registered workers of the construction industry and the associated strategy.</p>